



## California State Fire Marshal **CODE INTERPRETATION**

Date Issued	01-07-02	Interpretation #	02-002
Topic	Stages and Platforms		
Code Section(s)	§405.3.4, California Building Code (1998 ed)		
Requested by	Walter Schieron Murray & Downs 3025 Sacramento St Placerville, CA 95667		

***In elementary and middle school facilities, do the openings between the auditorium and the stage [50' or less in height] need to be protected by an approved fire curtain or approved water curtain?***

No. The stage is an accessory use area to the auditorium. Therefore, it does not require an approved fire curtain or approved water curtain. However, the auditorium must be separated from the accessory spaces [e.g., dressing rooms, workshops, storerooms, etc. defined in §405.3.2, CBC] by one-hour fire-rated construction.

Please note that §308, Title 19, California Code of Regulations, requires that all drapes, hangings, curtains and other decorative materials in every Group A, E and I occupancy must be made from non-flammable material or treated and maintained in a flame-retardant condition.